(b) there is no such proposal under consideration of Government.

(c) Pak ISI has been reported to be assisting militants in Assam. Militant groups in Assam have also been reported to be using facilities and territories in some of the neighbouring countries.

Unanimity of Views on Pak Firing

844. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir is very critical of Government's policy on the issue of shelling of Indian villages by the Pakistani Army;

(b) if so, what is perception Government viz-a-viz views held by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) whether there is complete unanimity of views or difference in perception still exists between Government and Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) It is not correct to say that the Chief Minister of J&K has criticised the policy of the Government. Chief Minister is critical of the role of Pakistan Army for shelling of Indian villages.

(b) and (c) On the issue of border firings on the Indo-Pak border, there is no difference of perception between the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and the Central Government.

Nexus Between Politicians and Militants in Assam

845. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports alleging nexus between politicians and militants in Assam; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Certain reports have been received by Government of Assam and Central Government alleging nexus between politicians and militants in Assam.

(b) Information is being collected and shall be placed on the table of the House.

Reforms in Police System

846. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an urgent need for reforms in the police system; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to enable the law enforcing authorities to face the new challenges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Public perception is that there has been a general fall in the performance of the police as also a deterioration in the policing system as a whole in the country and that there is need to bring about certain reforms and structural changes in consonance with the developments which have taken place during the last 50 years or so in the administration of criminal justice in general and police functioning and practices in particular. The Home Minister has written to the State Chief Ministers in this regard. Reforms and restructuring of the police system in India was also the subject matter of meeting of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Home Affairs held recently.

As 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subejcts as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, it is essentially for the State Governments to take such measures as are necessary to improve the police and policing in their respective jurisdiction. Within the constitutional limitations, however, the Central Government has been emphasising on the States to bring about such changes in the functioning of their police as are necessary to meet the expectations of the people. The stress by the Government of India has been not only to modify the existing recruitment and training practices in the States but also to modernise their intelligence, weaponry and